

Issue #05-20 May 2020

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Webmaster: Jackie Leavitt
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Committee Chairs
By-Laws: Bill Smith
Nominations: Chuck Rose
JROTC Awards: John Lopez
Scholarships: Pat Connolly
Wounded Warriors: J.W. Martin
FSH Cemetery Events: Raul de la Garza
Canyon Lake Picnic: Raul de la Garza
Dick's Fund Raiser: Fred Solis
Christmas Banquet: John Lopez
Budget Committee: Merrill Hall
Chapter Memorial Svc: Pat Meffert

Chapter Annual Cruise: Karen Hermann

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



April 30 — Scholarship applications due

May 1 — Board Marcing 1000

May 15-17 — Picnic at CAM GENE Pake

May 25 — Memorial Day Service 0930

June 5 — June Board Meeting 1000

June 6 — Membership Meeting, VFW 8541

1200 — noon meal served

1300 —Business Meeting



DON'T FORGET



• Because of the lockdown due to coronavirus, the May 1 board meeting is canceled, as is our annual Canyon Lake Weekend May 15-17. The recreation areas at Canyon Lake will be open, but no gatherings of more than eight people will

be allowed. (Besides, who can drink beer while

wearing a mask?)

- VFW Post 8541 remains closed to the public for now.
- One thing that is NOT canceled is the Sunday "Swordbearer's Chapel" in the Rodela Room at the VFW. Father Steve says the time has changed to 11 a.m. and seating will be appropriately spaced out.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Sends:

ello, I hope this month finds everyone healthy and staying as safe as possible during this difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact me or members of the chapter if you feel that you are in need of food, water, or other necessities. We are all in this together and together we can help each other and get through this COVID-19 pandemic.

Remember if you must go outside to wear a mask to cover your nose and mouth, keep washing your hands and practice social distancing.

Our annual picnic is cancelled. Canyon Lake is open for day use only and not taking group reservations. They are following social distancing guidelines, which means no more than eight people in a group and you still have to wear a mask. As you know the virus mainly affects people with underlying health issues, and we do have members that fall in that category. Perhaps we can reschedule the picnic for later in the year.

Our Fiesta 2020 medals are in and Dana Lee has posted information on Facebook. The medals are very nice and are selling for \$15 each. Please contact Dana if you are interested in purchasing and or selling our Fiesta 2020 medals.

I want to thank chapter members that have been helping

and assisting other members by delivering food, water, and groceries since this crisis has started. I also want to thank members that have helped our community as well. Great job! Thank you.

As of now our June board meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 5th at 10 am. Our membership



meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 6th with lunch beginning at noon followed by our meeting at 1 pm. Hope to see you all there.

Stay safe and God bless!

John A. Lopez President, SFA Chapter XV

president@sfa-XV.org

\$\$\$ DOLLARS AND CENTS

Treasurer's Report, April 2020

Being cooped-up the past month has not been fun. I am sure it is the same for everybody else. I am looking forward to getting back to normal and being able to socialize with everybody.

There is not much to report this month.

I do want to thank John Rodden and George Garcia for their monthly donation.

Merrill Hall, Treasurer treasurer@sfa-xv.org Editor's Note: Several ads in this edition of the newsletter have expired. If your ad has expired, we hope you will continue your support by renewing for another year. The rates have not changed. (See Page 19 for pricing.) To renew or change your ad, email to editor@sfa-xv.org. You can pay on line at the Chapter website or in person at the next membership meeting.

Thank you and DOL.

Buddy Gee Newsletter Editor

Danie Bell REALTOR® (417) 379-0477

(417) 379-0477

Daniel-Bell@JBGoodwin.com

- Commercial
 - Lease Tenant Representative
- Residential
 - Military Relocation Professional



May 2020



'One Team One Fight'

By William Smith

FW Post 8541 teamed with other veterans group to take care of our community. San Antonio Healthy Vending, owned by Special Forces veteran Ruben Ayala, was hit hard by the coronavirus shutdown. School districts in and around San Antonio were his major clients, as well as many gyms in the area.

The shutdown meant his company was left with inventory that would expire. The VFW 8541, Student Veterans of America at University of Incarnate Word, and SFA Chapter XV teamed to lessen the impact of the shutdown and to take care of kids in need. Donations were made to cover the cost of Ayala's inventory, and then school snack packs were prepared to assist one of our local schools and their students.

On Monday 27 April we all met up at Krueger Middle School to hand out over 300 snack packs to students who were turning in their class work and picking up the next four weeks of lessons. The interaction with the teachers, parents and students was amazing. It truly showed our community how the motto in the military, "One Team One Fight" works. It was a great day for all.



SNACK PACKS FOR KIDS: Chris Marshall, a member of all 3 veterans groups, stands ready to make the next handout. Behind him, (I to r) Chris Marmolejo, president of Student Veterans of America at UIW; Leonardo Parisano, Air Force Academy Prep School; Ruben Ayala, SFA member and owner of Healthy Vending; and William Smith, commander of VFW 8541 and member of SFA.

Many thanks and much respect go out to Krueger Middle School Principal Cynthia Rubio and her amazing teachers. We are all in this together, and experiencing everyone coming together to assist a veteran-owned business at the same time as taking care of our children is nothing short of amazing.

Commander@vfwpost8541.org, 210-326-2228

What did you do during coronavirus lockdown?









President John Lopez pitched horseshoes in his back yard; Kim Phillips practiced her croquet shots; Chris Marshall donned his most effective face mask; Steve Hermann baked cookies and "chocolate-chip-banana-nut-sticky-bun French toast" for Karen.

From Gordon Lee

THE FIESTA MEDALS ARE HERE!!!!

They turned out even better than we envisioned. You really need to see them. Dana has put them in the Fiesta Store and on Facebook and they are already well received and selling. Since we aren't meeting and the VFW is closed, anyone that would like to purchase one (or many) can call Dana at 210-872-7777, or email her at dmlee1@att.net. She can mail or meet for delivery. \$15 each, or by mail with additional postage.





Fiesta medal with lights off

Medal with lighted red eyes

From JR Garza

- * The Drop Zone is open Monday-Friday for to-go orders only. You can call and place your order at 210 -314-7590.
- * The JB Fort Sam Houston barbershop is open for those that need a haircut. It is considered mission essential due to hygiene.
- * The commissary is open.

From Lou Calantoni

Hi guys. My son is graduating Texas National Guard Officer Candidate School in August of this year. Each class has a gun raffle to support their graduation and other veteran organizations. This link will take you to the website. If you do participate, could you contact me with the number of tickets so I can forward it to my son for his count. Thanks and please stay safe.

From Raul de la Garza

We need five volunteers to be flag bearers at the Memorial Day Ceremony at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, May 25 at 0930. Please call or email me if you can help. dragonrose_10602@yahoo.com. 210 907-5092.

R.I.P.: Former Chapter XV member Wayne Sigourney has died. See obituary in *The Drop.*

Chapter XV ready to roll with 215 members



From Marti Scott, Membership Secretary

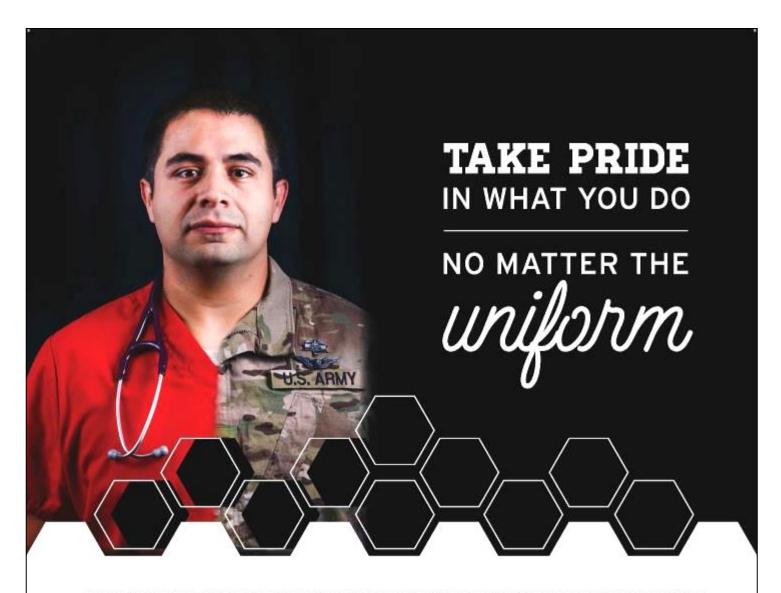
Hello Chapter Members! I am wishing and hoping that everyone of our 215 members are well and doing as well as can be expected during this "isolation."

As we all know, it seems that almost everything has come to a standstill. BUT, all of us who have been in situations worse than this, know that this will pass and we will be stronger than ever. You can't keep a Good Man/Woman down!

Our numbers are still good at 215 members here in the Chapter. We do have one member whose dues didn't make it to National for documentation, and with our Board meetings being put on hold and National working at a minimum, it has been difficult to set it straight. But we know he's GOOD TO GO!

Please bear with us during this time and know that we all are ready to roll once more!

All stay well and let us know if there is anything you need; we'll do our best!



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER SCHOOL OF NURSING OFFERS AN ACCELERATED VETERAN TO BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (VBSN) TRACK FOR VETERANS WITH PRIOR MILITARY MEDICAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE.

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Call or click at:

vbsn@ttuhsc.edu | 806.743.9294 | 1.800.493.3954 www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/undergraduate/vbsn







5/20

Temporary hold on Dick's Last Resort planning

From Fred Solis

ell, the "Cabrona Virus" (San Antonio TexMex talk) put a halt to almost everything, including contact with Dick's Last Resort.

At last report, we have a commitment from manager Mike Ochoa for our annual event to take place in the month of October 2020. That said, no one expected our current state of affairs across our great nation.

For the past 15 years we have met during the month of April to begin our planning sequence with the DLR staff, during which we pick a date for our event, review past events and solidify details of the next SF Chapter XV annual fundraiser (over a cold beer, of course.)



So at this point in time we go forth with the plan to continue our annual event with timeline adjustments as needed. Dick's is currently closed so we are unable to continue our planning sequence. Meanwhile, "back at the ranch," we will cross our fingers that after we resume operations, we will be able to continue our annual fundraiser planning and execution

without missing a beat.

Should the plan be postponed by Dick's for financial or operational reasons, we are already exploring alternate fundraising activities.

Any "Plan B" ideas are welcome.

Parole Board work continues uninterrupted



By Fred Solis

he current pandemic is a reminder of other national and world situations that many Chapter XV members and our families have endured. Although Americans tend to have short

memories, Special Ops operators remember exactly where they were during certain world events.

Perhaps you have used your deployments as a "timeline event calendar" as I do when relating to events back home. For example, I have no doubt you remember exactly what you were doing when you received orders for Vietnam or when you learned of the 9-11 attack. I happened to be in Dakar, Senegal preparing to make first contact with military forces in Guinea Bissau after a three-year civil war.

I currently serve as one of the seven appointed Board Members of the **Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles**, serving at the pleasure of the governor. Deemed an "essential function," the Board's work continues uninterrupted, with the increased task of responding to concerned family members of prison inmates. Members of the Board and their staffs continue full operations.

Many of the phone calls and questions are misdirected, as the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles is a separate agency from The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) who is tasked with the housing and management of State inmates. The Board is a decision-making body. Nonetheless, family members direct their questions, concerns and complaints to the Board. Of course, family members are concerned over the possibility of their inmate family member contracting COVID-19 while incarcerated, as all of us are, but they are often not cognizant of the legal issues involved with each case. One of the Board's primary responsibilities is public safety, and close coordination with TDCJ occurs on a daily basis.

On a positive note, a majority of cases are now considered and voted electronically, which is certainly a great help in this situation of following national and current COVID-19 safety guidelines. So, in our case, we continue operations without missing a beat.



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Plans for Akumal - and tips for future travel



From Karen Hermann

We have 30 people now registered for our August 18-23 Escape to Secrets Akumal. That's a good number, and I will keep checking if there might be any discount packages offered in the wake of the coronavirus slowdown. If so, we would get a price cut. Even if not, this is going to be such a great "getaway" experience after our weeks of isolation. And a significant fund raiser for Chapter XV!

Travel agents are swamped right now with calls from people trying to reschedule, cancel or rearrange their travel plans. That means hours 'on hold' if you try to do it yourself.

So, for ANY travel plans you are making for the future, I have three recommendations:

- 1. Use a travel agent. (Let *them* spend hours on the phone instead of you.)
- 2. Use a credit card not cash or a debit card. You can dispute the charge if something is wrong, and your cash will be intact.
- 3. Buy travel insurance. These are uncertain times!

Chapter 41 proposes Special Forces license plate for Texas

Do you like the idea of a Special Forces license plate?

Austin Chapter 41 is drafting a letter to state representatives asking them to sponsor our "qualifying" plate. The Legislature apparently votes these things in. Once that's done, all that is necessary is for anyone from Texas who is SF qualified to provide proof of their SF qualification to their tag office when they renew/obtain their plates. The tag office will then issue the plates.



extra fees.

There is no extra fee. These are not vanity plates and incur no additional cost. There is no minimum number required, and we do not have to generate a deposit. Plates that require deposits are not "qualifying," plates meaning if you want one you can get one and pay the

Chapter 41 President Zak Kozak says he will copy all the Texas chapter presidents when he's ready to send the letter. He suggests other chapters can help by contacting their local representatives and encouraging them to sign off on the plate. Send any questions to Zak.

Special Forces Association Chapter XV 2020 Escape to Secrets Akumal!

Enjoy Unlimited Luxury* - An all-inclusive experience that exceeds expectations!

Secrets Akumal Riviera Maya - Idyllic. Striking. Nature.

Nestled in the heart of the Riviera Maya, bask on white-sand beaches and relax in calm, clear waters. This adult-only paradise fuses elegant and original design with nature's elements. Akumal means "place of the turtle" in Mayan and is renowned for its beautiful beaches and green sea turtles

- *Limitless access to gourmet à la carte dining options
- without reservations required

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Natural fruit juices and soft drinks

24-hour room and concierge services

Pool and beach wait service

Daily refreshed mini-bar - soft drinks, juice, bottled water and beer

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August 18th – 23rd, 2020 - 5 night / 6 Days Land Only – *includes transfers to / from resort

Junior Suite Tropical View

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Junior Suite - Swim Out

\$1190.00 per person

Preferred Club Junior Suite - Swim Out

\$1418.00 per person

\$200 p/p deposit due at booking. *Additional suite categories and pre/post 1, 2 and 3 night combinations available on request with special pricing. Space subject to availability at time of booking. Complimentary transfers on 5 day package arrival and departure days only. Contact for more details.

Contact Karen Hermann @ 210-372-5122 or khermann@wth.com for more information or to book

Sheri Green Austin, TX T: (855) HIP-2CRZ E: sgreen@dreamvacations.com





Dream Q

*Prices are per person, based on double occupancy, land only, space is limited. Rates include a \$4b per person markup donation to SFA Chapter XV. Mark-up will not be waived. Other restrictions may apply. © 2020 Dream Vacations.



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210 979-7378



Bob Jenkins, U.S. Army (Retired)



06/20

May 2020



Time for personal spring cleaning?

e are entering the month of May. May has some points of significance for the military community (one better known than any other). I will only highlight two of those events.

May 8th is Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) when the World War II Allied Forces declared total victory over the Axis Forces in 1945. It was also May 8th (1954) when the Viet Minh entered the French outpost (after the final French radio transmission on the 7th of May marking their defeat) in Dien Bien Phu, Vietnam, taking down the French flag and raising their own in victory.

That second event, unlike the first mentioned, would ultimately draw the United States into ground combat instead of marking our departure from it. That is because the US was deeply invested in the victory of what was then French Indochina. So deeply invested to the point of paying 80 percent of the costs of the French conduct of the war.

Investing so deeply into somebody else's fight made it, in the end, America's fight and pulled us into one of our nation's longest wars. A war of incredible cost. And one which still stirs significant debate among many as to the value of the outcomes.

We are in spring and entering summer. This is the time during which so many people do their spring cleaning. Maybe, seeing

that very few of us are going out much with the coronavirus restrictions in place, we should do a little personal spring cleaning. What or who are you so heavily invested in that you cannot let it fail? Where do you feel that if the thing/activity/person/etc. actually responsible for success cannot win, you would feel the need to step in and take over the fight?



Would that fight be worth it? If it would be, then continue to invest; some things are indeed worth self-sacrifice. If, on the other hand, you see that it would not be – spring clean it out of your life.

Buen Camino,

A-663 (Life)

Fr Steve CH (MAJ-Ret) Steven G Rindahl, DMin

"Set at liberty the oppressed"

~ Jesus ~



Warriors on the Way.

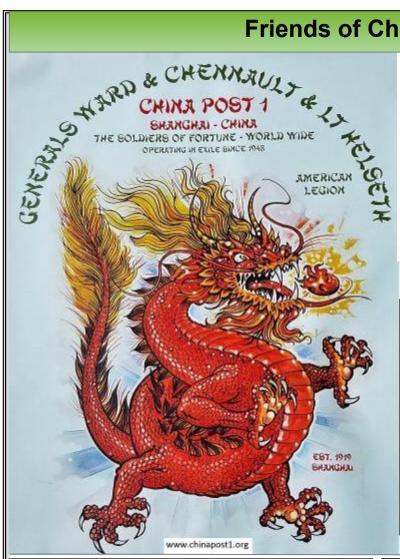
www.WarriorsOnTheWay.org

Combat Veterans on the Camino de Santiago Warriors on the Way

(a 501(c)(3) Veterans' organization)

is a Veterans Pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago (Spain) designed to put Warriors with PTSD and Moral Injury on the Way to Healing.

1/20







Armandina (Mandy) Terrazas 🖳







210-857-4247

MandyTerrazas@gmail.com

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Johnnie A. Terrazas, PE

Chief Engineer-CEO

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johnaterrazas@gmail.com

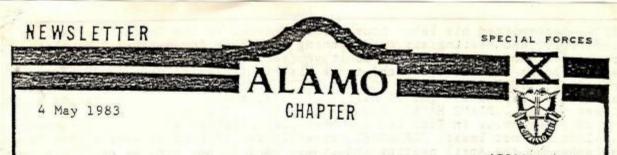
210-833-9493



zas and Associates, Inc

13 May 2020

Editor's Note: Do you ever wonder what the Chapter was doing many years ago? The Chapter newsletter for May 1983 is attached, pages 1 and 4. Please forgive the quality. This newsletter was published by typewriter and a copy machine 37 years ago. Note the "record" attendance of 18 people at a Chapter meeting. We've come a long way!



President's Message

LEN C. kept saying "There's another one. and another one. and ...!"
They were coming out of the woodwork! I'm referring to the excellent turnout for the April 21st meeting. There were 18 members and guests signed in - a new attendance record for us. It's very gratifying not only for me but also for another handful of guys who have hung in there trying to keep the Chapter moving forward. Thanks to all. We have a new Treasurer to replace DAVE FIDLER who is out Kansas way cultivating some "black gold" fields. ELDON GEE, an old friend and teem mate, just transferred in from the Hawaii Chapter, and volunteered to keep our books straight. Thanks ELDON. We also personally welcome other new members RON PHILLIPS, DONALD GUFFIE, JOHN STEPHENS, CHARLES WODENSCHECK, and BILL HANSON, and their families. On another note, ROY BENAVIDEZ is being honored on 14 May(Saturday) at El Campo, Texas(his hometown). The National Guard Armory is being dedicated in ROY's honor, and several of us are going down and back the same day. Everyone who can make it, please do - we are consolidating transportation so costs should be minimal - BRING YOUR BERETS; more specifics follow in the "Hot Poop" section of this newsletter.

Things are really starting to look good - let's keep the momentum and press on. Hope to see all of you soon!

The Past... Dom Campos

APRIL MEETING NOTES: (1) Attendance was 18. (2) Most of the session involved committee reports. DAVE F. was reported to be off the profile list. (3) Plaque presentations in March came off smooth...bid for Convention '86 is shaping up...Major Fund Raising Committee needs input, only one idea submitted so far....Memorial Activities Committee has worked out specifics for our participation in Memorial Day Ceremonies, 30 May, and also the details for the ROY BENAVIDEZ Tribute on 14 May (see "Hot Poop" section)...Quarterly Meeting/ Social for 3-4 June is also firming up (Hot Poop)....National wants local Chapters to be involved in Explorer Scouts.... SF bumper sticker sales by Oklahoma Chapter received negative response - free stickers are available thru the Recruiting people...Possible plaque purchases thru Korea Chapter discussed. (4) Old Business: Ladies Auxiliary Fund transfer is expected to be complete by the 12 May Chapter Meeting More raffle tickets requested and received from National (5) New Business: Search for a new Treasurer to replace DAVE F. in progress.... Motion and favorable vote for change of regular monthly meeting to 2d Thursday of each month beginning with 12 May 1983. (6) Open Forum: DAVE HUGHES volunteered to construct 1 year supply of wood portion of needed plaques instead of buying them from Korea... Sample of Phillipine/Korean-produced SF T-shirts and windbreakers displayed by CHARLIE HOFFMAN. Response by members was lukewarm....

PO BOX 33562, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78265-7015

Editor's Note: That year Canyon Lake was a day trip in June.

HOT POOP continued

Quarterly Meeting/Social, 3-4 June 1983

Concept: These "quarterlies" were created to allow flexibility primarily for those unable to attend normal monthly meetings. Also permits us a chance for social events. This one in June is a family affair.

Specifics:

3 June 1983: Meet at Rosie O'Gradys Club located on Naco-Perrin St. near Nacodoches St., from 1700 on. There is live music from about 2100 to dance or just sit and tip a few. This will offer an opportunity to meet each other and relax a bit.

4 June 1983:

- (1) Assembly: At Park & Ride Area, intersection of I35 N & Route 1604. Let's try to be there at 1000 to depart in convoy at 1015 or so. Those who wish to come out later should head for Area #2, FSH Recreation Area, Canyon Lake. Watch for our signs.
- (2) Uniform: Picnic clothes and swim suits.
- (3) Logistics: Families are requested to bring their main dish and a side dish - there will be at least 1 grill in action. The Chapter will furnish brew & sodas, charcoal, ice, plates, napkins, etc. (Out-of-towners just bring your warm bodies, we'll have chow for you)
 - Housing: For Out-of-towners wanting to stay at member's homes, Dom & Betty Campos, and Bob & Penny Hand have extra room. Other in-towners with room please notify Dom(733-2125/653-1171) or Bob H.(221-3104/1-625-2163).
 - Babysitters: For Friday evening Chapter Members with teenagers who will serve the cause, please contact Dom or Bob H.

Additional Information:

Dom Campos 733-2125/653-1171 Bob Hand 221-3104/1-625-2163 Bob Walker 225-2000/826-3512 Eldon Gee 221-6648/653-1343

RECRUITERS:

This is also an opportunity to bring out that prospective member and show him what we've got going (be sure he brings his checkbook - we will have an application for him)!

GREEN BERET CHAPTER XV 2020 CALENDAR

JANUARY	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	MARCH
2 Board Meeting 1400	1 Membership Meeting 1300	6 Board Meeting 1000
4 Membership Meeting 1300	15 Drop Input Due	7 Membership Meeting 1300
31 February Board Meeting 1000	26 Ch. XV 43nd anniversary	13-15 Cotulla Wild Hog Cookoff
		29 Vietnam Veterans Day
<u>APRIL</u>	MAY	JUNE
3 Board Meeting 1000	1 Board Meeting 1000	5 Board Meeting 1000
4 Chapter Memorial Service 1000	NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING	6 Membership Meeting 1300
4 Membership Meeting 1300	15 Drop Input Due	14 Flag Day & Army Birthday
30 Scholarship applications due	15-17 Canyon Lake Picnic	
TBD JROTC Presentations	25 Memorial Day Serv 0930	
	TBD - JROTC Presentations	
JULY	AUGUST	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
JULY 4 Independence Day	AUGUST 7 Board Meeting 1000	SEPTEMBER 4 Board Meeting 1000
	7 Board Meeting 1000 8 Membership Meeting 1300	
4 Independence Day	7 Board Meeting 1000 8 Membership Meeting 1300 12-15 SFA National Convention	4 Board Meeting 1000
4 Independence Day 10 Board Meeting 1000	7 Board Meeting 1000 8 Membership Meeting 1300 12-15 SFA National Convention 15 Drop Input Due	4 Board Meeting 1000 5 Membership Meeting 1300
4 Independence Day 10 Board Meeting 1000	7 Board Meeting 1000 8 Membership Meeting 1300 12-15 SFA National Convention	4 Board Meeting 1000 5 Membership Meeting 1300
4 Independence Day 10 Board Meeting 1000	7 Board Meeting 1000 8 Membership Meeting 1300 12-15 SFA National Convention 15 Drop Input Due	4 Board Meeting 1000 5 Membership Meeting 1300
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4 Independence Day 10 Board Meeting 1000 11 Membership Meeting 1300 CTOBER 2 Board Meeting 1000 3 Membership Meeting 1300 TBD Dick's Last Resort fundraiser	7 Board Meeting 1000 8 Membership Meeting 1300 12-15 SFA National Convention 15 Drop Input Due 18-23 Escape to 'Secrets Akumal' NOVEMBER 6 Board meeting 1000 7 Membership Meeting 1300 11 Veterans Day	4 Board Meeting 1000 5 Membership Meeting 1300 20 POW/MIA Day DECEMBER 4 Board Meeting 1400 5 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7 Pearl Harbor Day

All Chapter Meetings, unless announced otherwise, will be held at VFW Post 8541. Membership Meetings begin at 1300 hrs on the first Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted in the calendar.) A lunch meal will be served from 1200 to 1300 hrs prior to each Membership Meeting. Board Meetings will be held the Friday prior to the Membership Meeting at 1000 hours unless announced otherwise.

Special Forces Creed

I am an American Special Forces Soldier. A professional!

I will do all that my nation requires of me.

I am a volunteer, knowing well the hazards of my profession.

I serve with the memory of those who have gone before me: Roger's Rangers, Francis Marion, Mosby's Rangers, the 1st Special Service Force, the Jedburghs, Detachment 101,

and the Special Forces Soldiers of the Vietnam War,
Who were awarded 17 Medals of Honor and 90 Distinguished Service Crosses.

I pledge to uphold the honor and integrity of all these,

In all That I am, all I do.

I am a professional soldier.

I will teach and fight whatever my nation requires,

To liberate the oppressed.

1 will strive always, to excel in every art and artifice of war.

I know that I will be called upon to perform tasks in isolation

Far from familiar faces and voices.

With the help and guidance of my God,

I will conquer my fears and succeed.

I will keeps my mind and body clean, alert and strong, for this is my debt to those who depend upon me.

I will not fail those with whom I serve, I will not bring shame upon myself or the Forces. I will maintain myself, my arms, and my equipment

In an immaculate state as befits a Special Forces Soldier.

My goal is to succeed in any mission—and live to succeed again.

I may not be found wanting, that I will not fail in this sacred trust

Special Forces Poem By P.M. White

T'be lifted my glass and drank my fill, Of the wine that's known as pride.

I've walked among some gallant men,

And matched them stride for stride. I've crammed my head with devious ways

To defeat the enemy's goal. And kept inside for loyalty's sake,

The tales that can't be told. The need is gone for my service now,

I'll hang up my green beret and sip no more the wine of pride,

Till called again someday.

The strength and character of an organization are measured by its members.

Bob and Vicki Walker

1/9/2021

RECUERDO (REMEMBRANCE)

I sing of one who would remain unsung, whose name would fade like tracks upon the sand. For him no bells were ordered to be rung; no banners lowered by a grieving land. No bugles blew the moment that he expired; no clock was stopped to fix the final hour; no doors were draped in black, no cannons fired. These are the rites of men of rank and power.

But still I sing of him with mounting pride, who seized the challenge with uncommon heart then ran the course with firm unfaltering stride to reach the mark determined from the start.

The measure of a man who runs the race—lies in his distance from the starting place.

Anonymous



10/10/17

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San Antonio, Texas 78265-3782

President: Juan E. "John" Lopez



president@sfa-xv.org

Calendar of Significant Special Forces Events

12-15 AUG 2020 Special Forces Association ConventionSandestin Beach and Spa Resort, Destin, FL

22-25 OCT 2021 Special Forces Association Convention

The Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

Thanks to Chris Marshall, Susan Marshall, Dana Lee, Kim Phillips, Fred Solis, William Smith (and Facebook) for photos in this issue.

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The Editors



"Carry on!"